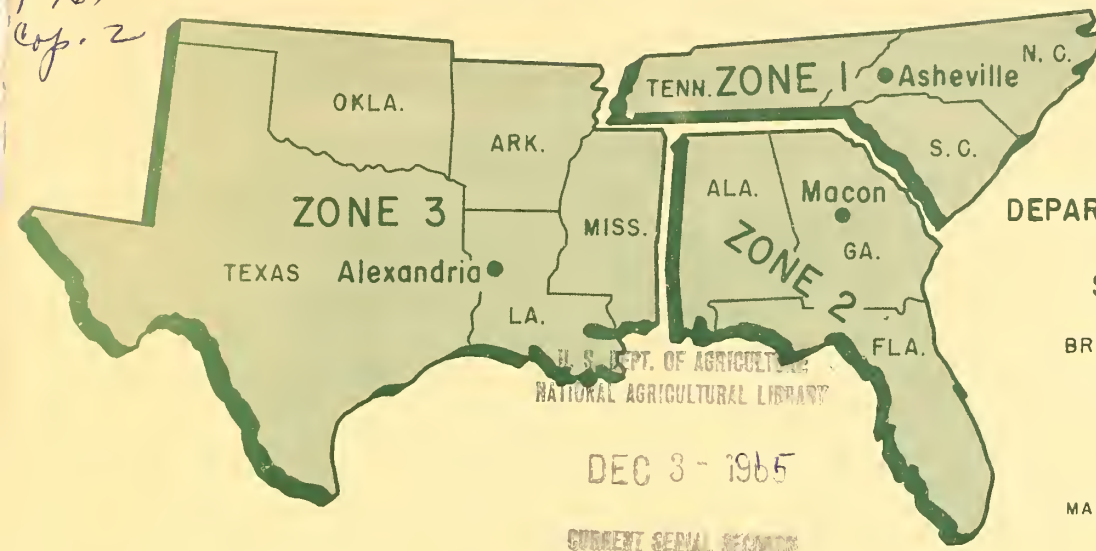


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SOUTHERN FOREST PEST REPORTER

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UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREST SERVICE
SOUTHERN REGION

BRANCH OF FOREST INSECT

AND DISEASE CONTROL

FIELD OFFICES

ASHEVILLE, N.C.

MACON, GA. ALEXANDRIA, LA.

CURRENT SERIAL RECORDS

Number 3

50 SEVENTH ST. N.E. ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30323

October 1965

SUMMARY OF CONDITIONS

- .. Epidemic outbreaks of the southern pine beetle continue in Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee and Texas. An extremely active new outbreak in Dare, Hyde and Perquimans counties in North Carolina is located in wet, inaccessible areas. The infestation in eastern Tennessee has an average of 170.5 infested trees per thousand acres. Controls are being carried out in all known infested areas either by salvage or chemical methods.
- .. Black turpentine and Ips beetle populations are normal for this season of the year.
- .. Results of spraying selected seed production areas in Arkansas, Florida and South Carolina are being evaluated.
- .. Oak wilt was discovered in Craig County, Oklahoma, for the first time this year. Oak wilt infection in North Carolina was lowest since controls were initiated in 1954.
- .. A Fomes annosus survey on the Yazoo-Little Tallahatchie Flood Prevention Project in Mississippi showed an average of 5 infected trees per acre for the plantations included in the survey.



STATUS OF FOREST INSECTS

SOUTHERN PINE BEETLE, Dendroctonus frontalis Zimm.

- ALABAMA Southern pine beetle populations increased during the summer over the entire Talladega National Forest. Chemical control projects on the Tuscaloosa and Oakmulgee Districts have been reactivated and control operations on the Talladega and Shoal Creek Districts have been stepped up to combat this increase in activity. In August, there were an estimated 2,666 infested trees on the Shoal Creek District.
- An increase in southern pine beetle infestations is occurring in Jefferson and adjoining counties on private land. Infested trees are being salvaged by some individual landowners.
- GEORGIA Southern pine beetle activity increased during the summer on the Chattooga and Tallulah Districts of the National Forests in Georgia. Recent surveys and evaluations showed that these districts had more infested trees than at any time since 1963. Chemical control is being continued.
- Endemic populations are present on the Uncle Remus District of the Oconee National Forest and the Piedmont National Wildlife Refuge.
- LOUISIANA Infestations in Allen Parish remained at a low level. Infested trees decreased from 2.27 per thousand acres in May to 0.67 in August.
- The new infestation in Calcasieu Parish is still active and confined to a small area southwest of Sulphur. Surveys in August showed 60 infested trees per thousand acres in the area surveyed.
- A small outbreak of a few spots was reported in West Feliciana Parish.
- MISSISSIPPI Beetle activity increased in the early summer to an epidemic level on the Homochitto National Forest and nearby private land. A survey by the Forest Insect and Disease Control Branch on the National Forest in June showed approximately

SOUTHERN PINE BEETLE (Cont'd)

33.8 infested trees per thousand acres, and control measures were intensified. A survey in September indicated a decrease to approximately 5 infested trees per thousand acres. The infestation on private land was in Wilkinson, Amite, Adams and Franklin counties.

NORTH CAROLINA

Numerous large southern pine beetle spots continue to occur in the Upper Piedmont area counties of Davie, Forsyth, Iredell, and Yadkin. Some increase was detected in Granville and Vance counties where 50 to 75 new spots were detected during early September. A slight decline in activity is apparent in the Hertford-Gates county area.

New outbreaks were detected in Dare, Hyde and Perquimans counties in the coastal plain. These outbreaks, particularly in Dare and Hyde counties, are extremely active and are located in wet, inaccessible areas. (North Carolina Division of Forestry)

A localized infestation on the Wayah District of the National Forests in North Carolina is continuing.

SOUTH CAROLINA

Infestations on the Andrew Pickens District of the National Forests in South Carolina are continuing at a moderate level. Continued chemical control and salvage are helping to reduce losses.

The infestation on the Francis Marion National Forest collapsed early in 1965 and did not recur. No new outbreaks were discovered on the Enoree or Tyger Districts during 1965.

TENNESSEE

The southern pine beetle infestation in eastern Tennessee continues at a high level. The level of infestation averages 170.5 trees per thousand acres on the Oak Ridge Atomic Energy Reservation and adjoining lands. Salvage efforts are continuing in this area. Numerous large spots have been detected on private lands in Anderson, Knox, Loudon and Roane counties.

SOUTHERN PINE BEETLE (Cont'd)

TEXAS

The southern pine beetle reached epidemic proportions on private lands in southeast Texas this summer. One thousand five hundred and twenty-four spots containing 59,116 trees were controlled. The epidemic reached its peak in June with a total of 778 multiple spots detected. Biweekly reports by the Texas Forest Service show a steady decline throughout the summer. August data showed 195 active spots found during the month. September flights show the number of spots greatly reduced. (Texas Forest Service)

Beetle activity increased on the Angelina National Forest near Broadus, Texas. Forty-eight spots containing 306 brood trees were controlled during June and July.

Beetle populations increased on the Big Thicket Ranger District during early summer. During June, July and August, 1,096 brood trees were treated. A survey by the Forest Insect and Disease Control Branch in July showed populations declining.

BLACK TURPENTINE BEETLE, Dendroctonus terebrans (Oliver)

ARKANSAS

Increased activity has been noted in local situations. Cutover and burned areas have shown an expected increase, also lightning struck trees and trees damaged in logging operations are reported as infested. (Arkansas Forest Pest Report)

LOUISIANA

Black turpentine beetle continues to be a problem on the Kisatchie National Forest, particularly on disturbed sites in low areas. The Winn Ranger District was reported as having less damage from this insect than for 2 or 3 years. The Catahoula Ranger District has some areas on low, cutover sites where as many as 70 large loblolly pines have been heavily infested.

MISSISSIPPI

Black turpentine beetle continues to be a problem on cutover areas in the Homochitto, Bienville, and DeSoto National Forests.

TEXAS

Populations of black turpentine beetle have increased in areas where it is associated with southern pine beetle. Control measures were continued on National Forest land to prevent population buildup.

BLACK TURPENTINE BEETLE (Cont'd)

GENERAL For the remainder of the Region, turpentine beetle activity is about normal for this time of year.

IPS ENGRAVER BEETLES, Ips spp.

ARKANSAS Ips infestations have shown a seasonal increase, particularly in local areas not receiving sufficient rainfall. Lightning strikes and fire were responsible for increased activity in localities in the southern half of the State. Salvage and control treatments are checking any serious buildup in hazard areas. (Arkansas Forest Pest Report)

GENERAL Ips activity appears normal for the remainder of the Region.

RED-HEADED PINE SAWFLY, Neodiprion lecontei (Fitch)

LOUISIANA Several infestations of red-headed pine sawfly were reported defoliating pine seedlings on the Kisatchie National Forest and on private lands, but no serious damage was noted.

TEXAS Partial defoliation of loblolly pines was observed in Bastrop, Polk, Rusk and Trinity counties. (Texas Forest Service)

SEED AND CONE INSECTS

ARKANSAS Two seed production areas on the Ozark-St. Francis National Forest, consisting of 183 acres, were sprayed by the Forest Service to protect the valuable cone crop primarily from Dioryctria spp. Results of control are being evaluated by the Forest Insect and Disease Control Branch.

LOUISIANA Seed and cone insects are being evaluated by the Forest Insect and Disease Control Branch on two areas on the Vernon and Catahoula Districts of the Kisatchie National Forest to determine the insect species present. So far Dioryctria and Laspeyresia spp. have been found.

GENERAL The results of spraying for the control of seed and cone insects are also being evaluated on two seed production areas in Florida, one in South Carolina and a seed orchard in North Carolina.

BALSAM WOOLLY APHID, Chermes piceae (Ratz)

NORTH
CAROLINA

Detection surveys for the balsam woolly aphid were completed in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park during August. Additional mortality was detected in the vicinity of Mt. Sterling where infestations have been known to occur since 1963. Some spread was noted from an area of infestation detected near Cataloochee Balsam in 1964. No new centers of infestation were detected.

MISCELLANEOUS INSECTS

NORTH
CAROLINA

Over 100 acres of 4 to 5 year old loblolly pine plantations were attacked in Columbus and Brunswick counties by the pine chafer Anomala obliqua Horn. (North Carolina Division of Forestry)

Scattered defoliation by an unidentified Neodiprion spp. occurred over some 100 acres of longleaf pine in Brunswick County.

FLORIDA

A large tract of slash pine timber is being defoliated by heavy infestations of a Neodiprion spp. in Taylor County. The Buckeye Cellulose Company is in the process of applying insecticide by aircraft for control.

ALABAMA &
GEORGIA

The elm leaf beetle Galencella luteola (Schr.) and the large elm leaf beetle Monocesta caryli (Say), defoliated numerous elm trees throughout the Piedmont of Alabama and Georgia.

Heavy infestations of the fall webworm, Hyphantria cunea (Drury), are occurring on pecan and persimmon trees in Geneva County, Alabama and Bibb and Houston counties, Georgia.

TENNESSEE

The locust leaf miner, Xenochalepus dorsalis Thumb. caused extensive browning of black locust foliage in the vicinity of Newport, Clinch Mountain and other areas in eastern and central Tennessee.

A leaf mining weevil, Odontopus calceatus Say, caused widespread damage to yellow poplar and magnolia in eastern Tennessee.

An unidentified notodontid was reported feeding on maple near Elizabethton, Tennessee.

A coneworm, probably Eucosma spp., has been collected from second year shortleaf pine cones in North Carolina, South Carolina and Tennessee.

STATUS OF FOREST DISEASES

ANNOSUS ROOT ROT, Fomes annosus (Fr.) Cooke

- FLORIDA Fomes annosus was identified as causing mortality in a 1200-acre slash pine plantation in Calhoun County. This plantation was thinned in 1958 and again in 1964.
- LOUISIANA & TEXAS Fomes annosus was reported for the first time in Allen Parish, Louisiana and Henderson County, Texas.
- MISSISSIPPI A survey for Fomes annosus was completed recently on the Yazoo-Little Tallahatchie Flood Prevention Project in plantations of 10 or more acres which had been thinned once at least 2 years prior to the survey. Results showed about 3,000 trees either dead or infected with F. annosus in the defined population. This is about 5 infected trees per acre.

OAK WILT, Ceratocystis fagacearum (Bretz) Hunt

- NORTH CAROLINA Fewer oak wilt trees were found during this season than at any time since control was initiated in 1954. Only 20 infected trees had been confirmed by early September. (North Carolina Division of Forestry)
- TENNESSEE A small number of infected trees were detected in Greene and Washington counties, Tennessee.

LITTLELEAF DISEASE

Littleleaf disease continues to cause considerable mortality to shortleaf pine in the Piedmont area of the Region. Numerous trees are being detected while conducting aerial surveys for bark beetles.

MISCELLANEOUS DISEASES

A local infection of a spruce needle-rust, probably Chrysomyxa spp., was detected in the vicinity of Charlie's Bunyon in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park.

MISCELLANEOUS DISEASES (Cont'd)

Needle cast caused by Hypoderma lethale Dearn. was common throughout the Region this summer.

Brown spot needle disease, Scirrhia acicola (Dearn.) Siggers. is heavy in the longleaf pine belt on both planted and direct seeded seedlings.

Pitch canker was observed on sand pine in the vicinity of Marianna, Florida.

More detailed information can be obtained by writing to the Forest Insect and Disease Control Branch Zone Offices listed below or to the Atlanta Office:

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